

STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Public Hearing – February 7, 2013 General Law Committee

Testimony Submitted by Commissioner Dan Esty

S.B. 752 - AN ACT CONCERNING SELF-SERVICE STORAGE FACILITY LIENS

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding S.B. 752 - AN ACT CONCERNING SELF-SERVICE STORAGE FACILITY LIENS, which seeks to change some rules for storage businesses dealing with defaulted property. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) periodically receives calls from such storage businesses who are dealing with defaulted vessels, who well understand their responsibilities under the law when dealing with other types of property, but who frequently overlook the vessel lien statute because it is not covered in their section of law. This oversight has resulted in unnecessary expenditure of time and money for both businesses and this agency.

To address this oversight, and in view of the proposed changes to storage facility law, the Department requests Section 42-160 be amended to add a subsection stating that if the defaulted property is a vessel, then the requirements of Section 49-55 et Seq. are to be followed. Implementation of this modification will cue the aggrieved business to begin the vessel lien process concurrent with the process for dealing with other defaulted property, assisting the aggrieved while avoiding the expense of agency time that would be required to address an improperly transferred vessel.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this proposal. If you should require any additional information, please contact DEEP's legislative liaison, Robert LaFrance at 424-3401 or Robert.LaFrance@ct.gov